

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/624,604

Examiner

Vincent E. Kovalick

Applicant(s)

MINAMI, MASARU

Art Unit

2629

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to applicant's amendment dated 12/13/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to Applicant's Amendment dated December 13, 2005 in response to USPTO Non-Final Office Action dated September 21, 2005.

The amendments to claims 1-4, the addition of new claims 5-6 and Applicant's remarks are sufficient to place the application in a condition for allowance as set forth herein below.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-6 are allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Relative to claim 1, the major difference between the teachings of the prior art of record (USP 5,561,343, Lowe and Pub. No. 2002/0075443, Shimizu et al.) and that of the instant invention is that said prior art of record **does not teach** a field emission display comprising a plurality of projected portions provided at each spacer mount position on a first panel substrate, wherein each said spacer is fastened to said plurality of projected portions by a recoil strength obtained when each said spacer is elastically deformed.

Relative to claim 4, the major difference between the teachings of the said prior art of record and that of the instant invention is that said prior art of record **does not teach** a field emission display with a method step for providing a plurality of projected portions at each space mount position on said first substrate, and a step of elastically deforming each said spacer by an external force so as to avoid positional interference of said spacer with said plurality of projected portions, assembling said spacer into a space mount position on said first panel substrate in said

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elastically deformed condition , and releasing said external force in said assembled condition, thereby fastening said spacer to said plurality of projected portions.

Relative to claim 5, the major difference between the teachings of the said prior art of record and that of the instant invention is that said prior art of record **does not teach** a field emission display comprising a plurality of projected portions alternatively arranged at both end portions of each spacer mount position on said first panel substrate, wherein each said spacer is brought into pressure contact with said surfaces of the projected portions by a recoil strength obtained when each said spacer is elastically deformed.

Regarding claim 6, the major difference between the teachings of the said prior art of record and that of the instant invention is that said prior art of record **does not teach** a field emission display comprising a plurality of projected portions over the first panel substrate; and an elastic spacer between the first panel substrate and the second panel substrate, the elastic spacer being secured between the plurality of projected portions by a recoil strength obtained when each space is elastically deformed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Response to Applicant's Remarks

4. Applicant's claim for priority and the submission of certified copies of documents supporting that claim filed on July 23, 2003 have been noted and entered in the record.

Applicant's remarks relative to claims 1-4 are rendered moot in light of the allowance

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of said claims.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U. S. Patent No.	6,004,423	Ruedin et al.
Pub. No.	US2002/0053688	Gonzalez et a.
Pub. No.	US2002/0053515	Nemelka
Pub. No.	US2001/0040667	Sasaki

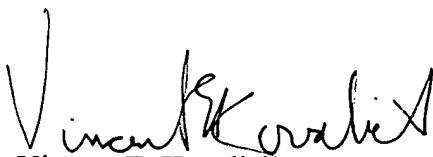
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To Respond

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vincent E. Kovalick whose telephone number is 571-272-7669. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 7:30- 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin Shalwala can be reached on 571-272-7681. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Vincent E. Kovalick
March 10, 2006


BIPIN SHALWALA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600